(a) whether it is a fact that the demand for mica has come down resulting in a downward trend in Market price;

(b) the present number of mica mines in Andhra Pradesh and the number of workers employed;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Vice President of the South India Mica Miners Association suggested some measures for the revival of the industry in Andhra Pradesh to the Chief Mining Geologist of the Indian Bureau of Mines; and

(d) if so, what are the details of the suggestions and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) While the demand for processed mica has remained stagnant there has been no downward trend in the export prices of mica, except in the case of non-moving items like green mica of Andhra Pradesh origin.

(b) The number of mica mines in Andhra Pradesh is 153 and the average daily employment of workers in 1984 was 918.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The suggestions submitted by the South India Mica Mine Owner Association and Mica Chamber of Commerce, Gudur to the Chief Mining Geologist of the Indian Bureau of Mines relate to:

(i) Abolition of export duty on mica;

(ii) Fair Prices and Marketing problems for mica;

(iii) Financial assistance for mica mining and to declare mica mining as a sick industry; and

(iv) Difficulties of mining of phlogepite mica;

Details of action taken thereon are as under:—

(i) Export duty on mica splitting, block condenser films, and mica paper has been abolished with effect from 1st March, 1987;

(ii) Mica Trading Corporation of India is already paying fair prices for mica processed by it from weaker sections and small dealers.

(iii) As regards financial assistance, mica mining has already been included in the definition of 'industrial concern' under the respective statutes of financial institutions and as such there is no bar on the institutions providing financial assisance for mica mining.

(iv) Geological Survey of India have been making investigations for location of new mica bearing pegmatites.

Welfare Schemes for Disabled Children

3133. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the schemes introduced for the welfare of the disabled children during the last three years;

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to introduce any more schemes during the current financial year;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any such centrally sponsored schemes has been introduced in Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the amount allocated for them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) A statement regarding scheme in operation is laid on the Table of the House as Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) A statement indicating the Central Government aided schemes being implemented in Andhra Pradesh by State Government or voluntary organisations is given as Statement II.

Statement I

The primary responsibility for welfare and upliftment of the handicapped falls on the State Governments as per item 9 of list II, State list of the schedule 7 of the Constitution. Nevertheless, the Central Government has a role of pace setter and innovator and has been assisting the State Governments as well as the voluntary organisation for programmes designed to provide rehabilitation services to the handicapped. The Cenral Government runs the following institutions exclusively for the disabled children:—

(1) Model School for Mentally Deficient Children, New Delhi.

(2) Model School for Blind Children, Dehradun.

(3) Special School for Orthopaedically Handicapped Children, New Delhi.

(4) School for the Partially Deaf Children, Hyderabad.

Disabled children are also provided facilities in their education schoolarships, aids and appliances etc. under the following schemes:—

Special Schools for the handicapped.

Central Government gives assistance to voluntary organisations to set up special schools and vocational training centres for the handicapped under which 90 per cent of the estimated cost of the project is given.

Integrated Education

Department of Education in Ministry of Human Resource Development have a programme known as Integrated Education for promoting education of handicapped students in normal schools. 100 per cent assistance is given to the State Governments for implementing the scheme of Integrated Education.

Scholarships

Scholarships are available to handicapped persons from 9th Class onwards. In addition to the amount of scholarship, blind students are given reader's allowance and orthopaedically handicapped students are given an allowance for maintenance of aids appliances. Transport allowance is also given to blind and orthopaedic handicapped to enable them become more mobile.

National Institute

Government of India has set up 4 National Institutes namely National Institute for Visually Handicapped at Dehradun; Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Bombay, National Institute for Mentally Handicapped, Hyderabad and National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Calcutta. These national institutes are apex level organisations in the field of research, material development, manufacture of low-cost aids and training of professionals in the field.

Physical restoration

Ministry of Welfare has a scheme under which assistance is given to handicapped persons for purchase/fitting of aids and appliances. Aids costing between Rs. 25|- and Rs. 3000|- are given either free of cost on at 50 per cent of the cost depending upon the income of the handicapped individual or parents|guardians of the handicapped.

District Rehabilitation Centre Scheme

The scheme of District Rehabilitation Centre was launched on a pilot basis in 1982-83. Though these Centres, efforts are made to provide comprehensive and coordinated services to the disabled population in the rural areas by suitably reorienting and augmenting the infrastructure

to reach the services as a minimum cost with as few specialists as possible. 10 DRCs have been sanctioned at the following locations:

(1) Virar, Distt. Thane, Maharashtra.

(2) Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh.

(3) Kharagpur, West Bengal.

(4) Mysore, Karnataka.

(5) Bhubaneswar, Orissa.

(6) Chengelpet, Tamilnadu.

(7) Kota, Rajasthan.

(8) Bilaspur, Madhya Pradesh.

(9) Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh.

(10) Bhiwani, Haryana.

Statement-II

Amount of funds sanctioned to Governemnt of Andhra Pradeesh/to voluntary organisations in Andhra Pradesh

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount sanctioned (*Rs. in lakhs*) 1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
1	Assistance to voluntary organisations for handicapped	1.94	9.83	21.25
2	Assistance to disabled persons for purchase/ fitting of Aids/Appliances	0.60	8.20	nil*
3	Scholarships	20.00	10.00	32.00
4	Integrated Eudcation	..	..	0.64
5	District Rehabilitation Centre, Vijayawada (Krishna Distt.)	..	15.60*	..†

*No appiication duly recommended by the State Government was recoverd during 1986-87.

†The DRC in Vijayawada was sanctioned during 1985-86. No. request was made by the DRC during 1986-87 for release of funds.

Removal of septic Tanks from Shantiniketan, New Delhi

3134. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the DDA's bye-laws or building regulations permit the installation of septic tanks in the newly developed residential colonies, like Shantiniketan, New Delhi;

(b) whether the Sadhu Vaswani Mission which had been allotted a big plot for the construction of a High School building have also put up Nursery/Primary school within the same premises and had built septic tanks to serve these schools, while they are asking separately for another plot for the Nursery school in the same colony;